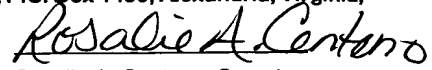


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Rosalie A. Centeno, Secretary

In the Application of Elmar Wiejack-Symann

Ser.No.: Not Yet Known (Based on PCT/EP2003/012993 filed November 20, 2003 and German priority document DE 102 54 970.2 filed November 26, 2002)

For: Drag Chain Conveyor Having Plastic Carriers

Filed on: May 12, 2004

Customer Number: 30996

Commissioner of Patents

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified National Stage PCT application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.